



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/596,632

06/19/2006

Keniichi Tsuzuki

36856.1453

8575

54066

7590

10/09/2009

MURATA MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD.

C/O KEATING & BENNETT, LLP

1800 Alexander Bell Drive

SUITE 200

Reston, VA 20191

EXAMINER

MAI, ANH T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2832

NOTIFICATION DATE

DELIVERY MODE

10/09/2009

ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

JKEATING@KBIPLAW.COM

uspto@kbiplaw.com

cbennett@kbiplaw.com

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/596,632	TSUZUKI, KENIICHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	ANH T. MAI	2832	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 5-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 June 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/19/06;8/22/07</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 5-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maki et al. [US 6515568] in view of Hayashi [JP 05036532A].

With respect to claims 5 and 8, Maki discloses a laminated coil comprising:

- a laminated body including a non-magnetic body section 216 and magnetic body sections 215 provided on both main surfaces of the non-magnetic body section as shown in figure 6;
- the magnetic body sections including a plurality of stacked magnetic layers 215, the non-magnetic body section including at least one layer of a non-magnetic layer 216; and
- a coil including coil conductors 213 provided in the laminated body and being helically connected;
- at least one of the coil conductors is provided inside the non-magnetic body section or on each of the main surfaces of the non-magnetic body section as shown in figures 5-6; See column 6, lines 1-30.

Maki discloses the claimed invention except for the width of conductor inside the non-magnetic body section is greater than that of the coil conductor provided in the laminated body.

Hayashi discloses a coil conductor 2-1, 2-2 provided on both main surfaces of the body section 1-2, 1-1 wherein the width d2 greater than d1 of the laminated layer, see figures 1-2 and paragraph [0033].

Art Unit: 4148

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to have the coil conductor width in the non-magnetic section being greater than that of the coil conductor in the body as taught by Hayashi to the coil conductor as disclosed by Maki. The motivation would have been to stabilize the stray capacitance; see [0034] of the translation.

With respect to claim 7, Maki discloses a plurality of the non-magnetic body sections being provided inside the laminated body.

With respect to claims 9 and 17, the at least one of the coil conductors of the at least one non-magnetic body section includes a coil conductor provided inside the non-magnetic body section as shown in figure 5 of Maki.

With respect to claim 14, Maki shows at least one non-magnetic body section includes only a single layer of non-magnetic material as shown in figure 6 [the single layer 216 in the figure].

With respect to claims 10-11, 16 and 18, Maki discloses the at least one of the coil conductors of the at least one non-magnetic body section includes coil conductors provided on both main surfaces of the non-magnetic body section as shown in figure 5.

With respect to claims 13 and 15, figure 5 of Maki shows at least one non-magnetic body section includes a plurality of non-magnetic body sections provided in the laminated body.

With respect to claims 6 and 12, Maki in view of Hayashi discloses the claimed invention except for the conductor width of the coil conductors having a greater conductor width is about 1.05 to about 2.14 times the conductor width of the other coil conductors provided in the laminated body. It is found that the width of the conductor is depends upon the application of the coil device, which means it is function of design. One of ordinary skill in the art would have found it is obvious to choose the relative ratio of the width of the conductors within the laminated body that is function for the desired application. Accordingly, the width ratios of the conductors

is an obvious design choice. In *Gardner v. TEC Systems, Inc.*, 725 F.2d 1338, 220 USPQ 777 (Fed. Cir. 1984).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ANH T. MAI whose telephone number is (571)272-1995. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4/9 Schedule.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Elvin Enad can be reached on 571-272-1990. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Anh T. Mai/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2832